

## The New Millennium: What's Ahead for the Alabama College System?

As we stand poised to accept the challenges of the new millennium, the Alabama College System embarks on a new course to promote development and advancement of postsecondary education. We do so with the understanding that our mission, as a system, entails a commitment to the professional and cultural growth of all our students. To accomplish our general mission, the 31 respective institutions that comprise the Alabama College System strive to provide educational environments that enhance learning through a wide variety of educational programs. Moreover, we endeavor to meet the needs of our students by offering an environment conducive for learning in adequate and comfortable facilities, by caring and well-qualified staff members, with flexible scheduling and at convenient locations.

With the dawn of the new millenium, the Alabama College System will move from the quarter system to the semester system. Our long anticipated switch will provide us with, yet, many additional opportunities to educationally serve primarily the residents of the state of Alabama. During August, 1998, the Alabama College System will join the ranks of other postsecondary institutions within the state, the region, and the nation that operate on the semester system. Of course, there are major advantages for making "the move." Most notably, via the semester system, our students will have a longer period of time to focus on learning material from textbooks -- textbooks designed primarily to be taught over a fourteen-to-fifteen week time span. Also, via the semester system, instructors will have more time to devote to students as "individual learners." Staff members will have additional time to assist students in addressing their concerns, problems and interests.

Toward the goal of promoting professional service and encouraging professional growth, the Alabama College Association (ACA) has expanded its scope to incorporate the Teaching and Learning Symposium. With the new addition, for the first time, ACA will now sponsor, organize and implement two professional development events. First, ACA will observe its annual conference, the Teaching and Learning Symposium, to highlight exemplary instructional programs, to share instructional ideas and to provide professional development in instructional strategies and disciplines in its endeavor to promote system-wide improvement in teaching and learning outcomes. Secondly, ACA will observe its annual convention to promote the overall development and advancement of postsecondary education.

Consequently, as the Alabama College System forges ahead into the new millennium, many opportunities for enhancing the lives of our fellow state residents, as well as others, become apparent. Hence, as members of the Alabama College Association, we are confident of our ability to more than adequately serve and meet the needs of the approximately 100,000 students who make up the student body of the Alabama College System. As your 1997-1999 president, I am humbled and honored to serve with such a distinguished group of volunteers, charged with the responsibility of planning and implementing our professional development annual conference and convention. As such, on behalf of the Executive Committee of ACA, I wish to extend to the entire membership the opportunity to become actively involved with our association by strengthening it with your recommendations, suggestions, inquiries and concerns. Please feel free to contact any of us on the Executive Committee, for truly with your assistance, we are equipped to handle "What's Ahead for the Alabama College System in the New Millenium."



Dr. Brenda Kennedy,  
ACA President



*The Alabama College Association Journal is a publication of the Alabama College Association.*

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

**Dr. Brenda J. Kennedy**  
*President*

**Dr. Mike Bailey**  
*First Vice President/President Elect*

**Dr. Nancy W. Chandler**  
*Second Vice President*

**Dr. Linda Hooton**  
*Treasurer*

**Dr. Martha Allen**  
*Immediate Past President*

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*Door Prizes Coordinator*

**Dr. Gary Branch**  
*Entertainment Chair*

**Dr. Terry Hazzard**  
*Entertainment Vice-Chair*

**Dr. Jim Thompson**  
*Evaluation Coordinator*

**Dr. Jim Krudop**  
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*Legislative Vice-Chair*

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*Teaching & Learning Chair*

**Mr. Mark Shope**  
*Administration Chair*

**Mr. John Fergus**  
*Administration Vice-Chair*

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**Ms. Lynn Newell**  
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**Dr. Frederick E. Williams**  
*Students Vice-Chair*

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*Support Vice-Chair*

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**Dr. Larry Beaty**  
*Presidents' Representative*

**Dr. Jorge Kuzmicic**  
*Postsecondary Representative*

**Ms. Brenda Carter**  
*ACHE Representative*

# ACA Executive Committee



**Kennedy**

Dr. Brenda J. Kennedy, president, is dean of student development at Faulkner State Community College. Her past positions include psychologist at Partlow State School and Hospital, counselor for the circuit court juvenile division in Mobile, and director of student personnel services at Faulkner State University.



**Bailey**

Dr. Mike Bailey, vice president/president elect, is president of Bessemer State Technical College. He received the first "Outstanding Service Award" by the American Technical Education Association and was inducted into the Alabama Vocational Association Hall of Fame. He serves on the Jefferson County Economic & Industrial Development Authority Board of Directors..



**Chandler**

Dr. Nancy W. Chandler, second vice president, is dean of instruction, institutional effectiveness and development at Faulkner State Community College. She serves as president of the Instructional Officers' Association. She has also served on the Technical Course Directory Program Steering Committee.



**Allen**

Dr. Martha Allen, immediate past president, is dean of instruction at Central Alabama Community College. She has served as president of the Instructional Officers' Association. She was formerly associate director, Economic Development Institute at Auburn University and a Russell Corporation Research Fellow.



**Hooton**

Dr. Linda Hooton, treasurer, is director of student services at Jefferson State Community College. She is the immediate past president of the American Association of Women in Community Colleges, Alabama chapter.



**Branch**

Dr. Gary Branch, entertainment chair, is president of Faulkner State Community College. He was named Most Distinguished College President in the Nation by Phi Theta Kappa in 1989 and 1995.



**Hazzard**

Dr. Terry Hazzard, entertainment vice chair, is dean of students at Bishop State Community College. Past positions include counselor at the University of Alabama and Spring Hill and asst. director of student personnel services.



**Krudop**

Dr. Jim Krudop, executive assistant to the president, is dean of the college at Lurleen B. Wallace Junior College. He chaired the ACA committee which opened membership to all system institutions.



**Ward**

Dr. Perry W. Ward, executive assistant to the president, is president of Lawson State Community College. A past president of ACA, he is a recipient of the Kermit Mathison Outstanding Junior Administrator Award.





Moore

Maurice Moore, assignment coordinator, is director of evening services at Jefferson Davis Community College. He has served on committees for the Teaching & Learning Symposium and the semester conversion.



Reutter

John Reutter, Teaching & Learning chair, is director of planning and research at Northwest-Shoals Community College. He served as chair of the Teaching & Learning Symposium for 1997-98.



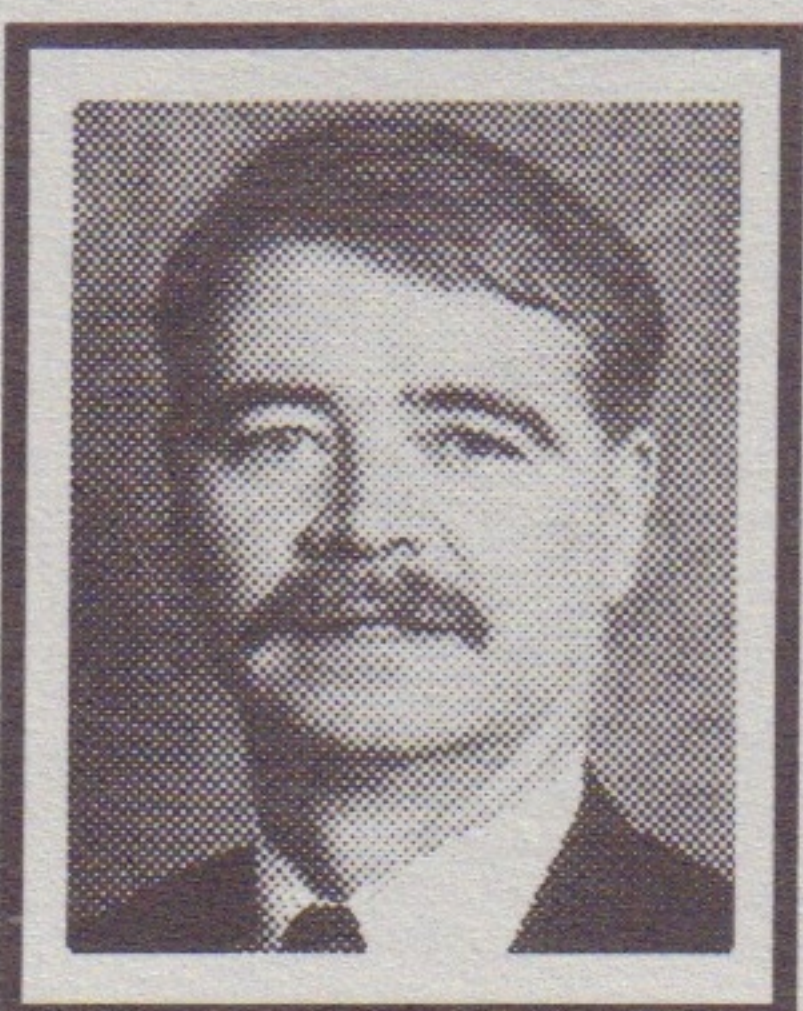
Williams

Dr. Frederick E. Williams, students vice chair, is director of college diversity programs and evening programs coordinator for the Opelika campus at Southern Union State Community College.



Marks

Betty Marks, historian and coordinator for registration, is director of the publications department at Athens State College. She has also served as the coordinator of the Chancellor's Awards nominations since 1985.



Shope

Mark L. Shope, administration vice chair, is dean of students at Wallace State Community College in Dothan. He has also served as president of the Alabama Deans of Student Affairs Association.



Balams

Janie Balams, support chair, is a library technical assistant at Bishop State Community College. She serves as Support Council chairperson and a member of the self-study team for the Division of Business and Economics.



Webb

Marilyn Webb, secretary, is assistant to the dean of student development at Faulkner State Community College. She is a member of the Board of Directors for the North Baldwin Community Concerts, Inc.



Fergus

John R. Fergus, administration vice chair, is dean, aviation division, Wallace Community College - Dothan and was dean of instruction at Alabama Aviation and Technical College prior to the merger.



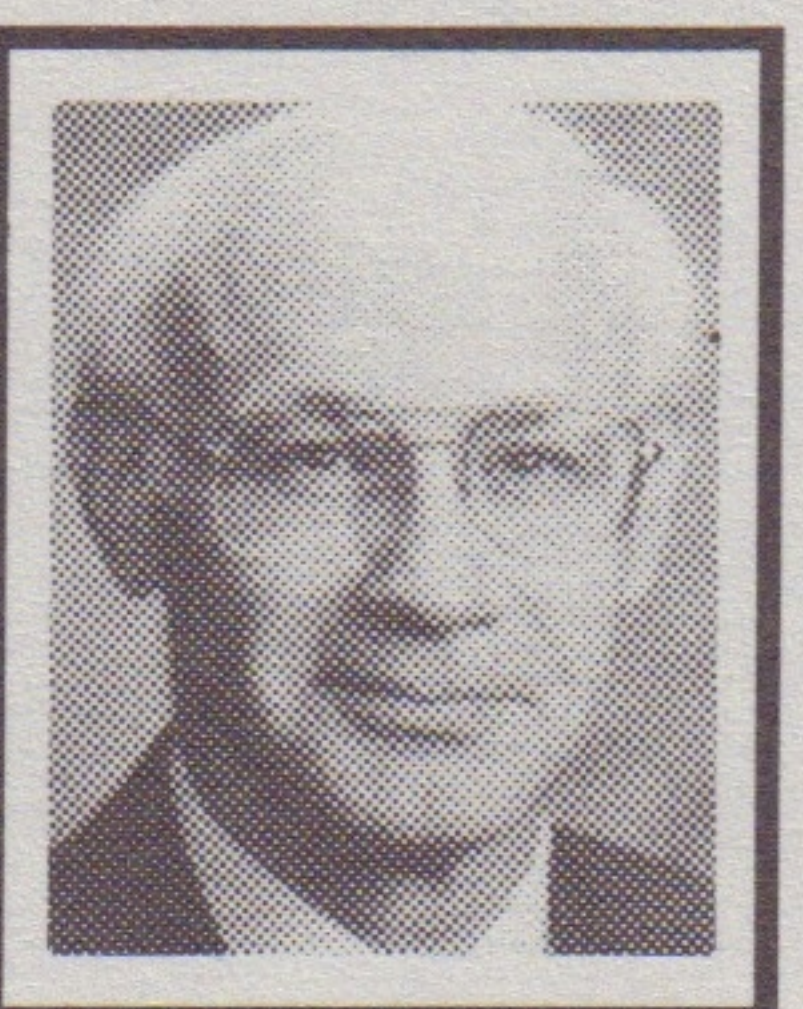
Beaty

Dr. Larry Beaty, presidents' representative, is president of George C. Wallace Community College. He serves on the Alabama College System Presidents Association Executive Committee.



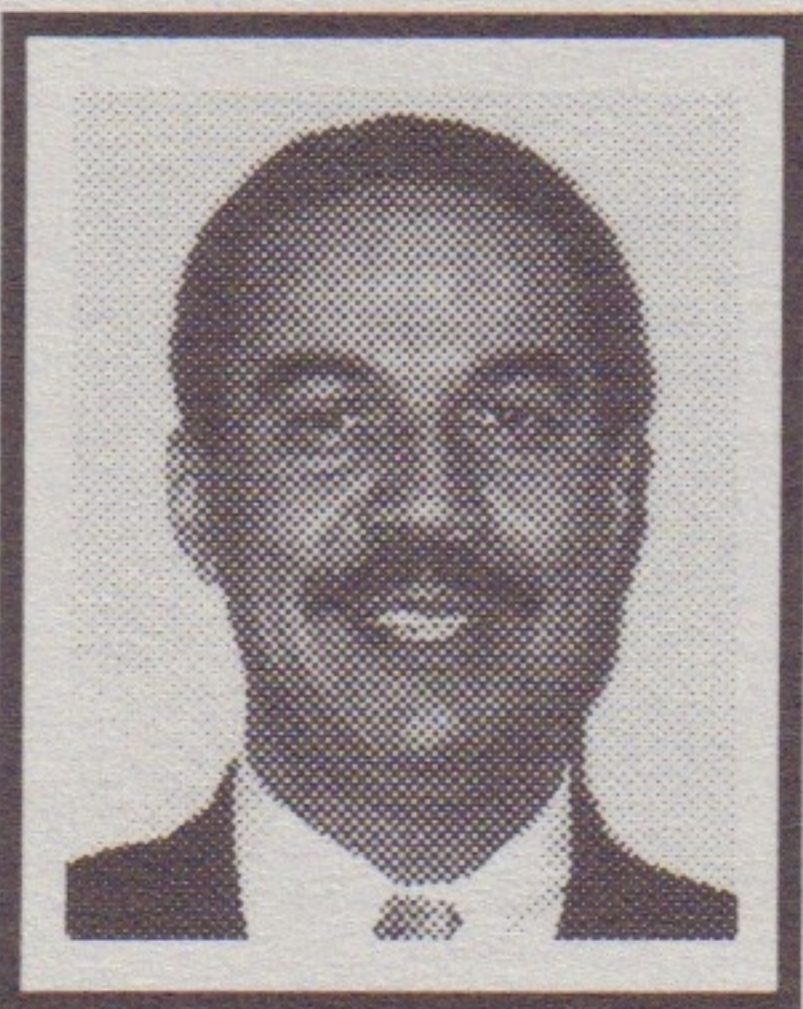
Graham

Betty Carol Graham, legislative chair, is dean of student enrollment services at Central Alabama Community College. In the Alabama House of Representatives, she serves on the Education, Health and Judiciary committees.



Cox

Randall L. Cox, faculty chair, is a chemistry instructor and chairman of the Natural Sciences Division at Calhoun Community College. He was recipient of the 1995-96 Chancellor's Award for Outstanding Junior College Faculty.



Kuzmicic

Dr. Jorge Kuzmicic, postsecondary representative, is vice chancellor for instructional and student services at the Department of Postsecondary Education. He served 24 years at Calhoun State Community College.



McBride

Dr. Ulysses McBride, legislative vice chair, is president of Reid State Technical College. He was named to the One Hundred Most Influential Black Americans in 1989, 1990 and 1991 and is a member of the Atmore Utilities Board.



Newell

Lynn H. Newell, faculty vice chair, is the director of Student Support Services at Ayers State Technical College. She is a member of the Teaching and Learning Symposium Committee and Council for Resource Development.



Carter

Brenda T. Carter, ACHE representative, is director of programs at the Alabama Commission on Higher Education. Her responsibilities include the evaluation and review of new and existing programs and new units of instruction.



## Decatur summit hosted by Calhoun

The Decatur campus of Calhoun Community College served as host site for the Decatur Summit for Youth, organized as a local follow-up to last spring's National Presidents' Summit for America's Future. Organized by Decatur's Promise, an 11-member local delegation who attended last April's Presidents' Summit, the Decatur Summit for Youth brought together about 300 community leaders, businesses, non-profit organizations, public agencies, and individuals committed to providing fundamental resources needed by young people in the community.

"We have a tremendous amount of support for our youth in this community but we need to build the capacity of those services and organizations," said Dr. Gary Green, executive vice president at Calhoun.

## MTEC now open

The Minority Technology and Entrepreneurial Center (MTEC) at Bishop State Community College in Mobile is now open for business, providing work force development and support services for beginning entrepreneurs and small business. The center offers skills upgrade training to local industries' employers and employees either on site or at one of the college's four campuses. It also provides training through video teleconferencing and satellite downlinking.

## Play chosen for festival

Greg Thomas, artistic director for the Bevill Community Theatre, has written a play entitled "Stitch in Time" which was selected by the International Amateur Theatre Association as one of 20 entries worldwide in the Fifth World Festival of Children's Theatre, which will be held in Lingen, Germany.



From left, Dr. Laurel Young, Dr. Pat Byrne, Janet Ormond and Sharla Harris examine Work Keys document

## Work Keys Center licensed in Dothan

Business and industry have long needed a method of measuring the skill levels of applicants and current employees that is aligned to the skill levels required for specific jobs. Recently, such a method or system-- the Work Keys System -- has been researched, designed, tested and implemented by the American Testing Association (ACT) and is being adopted by companies and states across the nation.

Wallace Community College in Dothan has been approved and licensed by ACT as a Work Keys Service Center. The center, operated and staffed by WCC's Corporate Services Department under the leadership of Dr. Pat Byrne, began operation in February.

For its pilot project, the Work Keys

Service Center has partnered with Ansell Inc., a local manufacturer. The profiling process for one job area of the plant's operation has been completed by service center analysts and all incumbent workers in that job have been assessed in four employability skill areas: reading for information, locating information, applied technology and observation.

"Ansell is very pleased to be in a partnership with Wallace Community College to implement the Work Keys System in developing our employees," said JoAnnette Feltman, Ansell's human resources administrator. "Work Keys will also provide a standard screening process for hiring and promotions as well as provide the required documentation for ISO 9000."

## Strickland named Communicator of Year

The Alabama College System Public Relations Association (ACSPRA) named Margaret Strickland the 1997 Communicator of the Year during the ACA Conference last November. Strickland, an English and communications instructor and director of college relations at Faulkner State Community College, has worked with the college since 1983. In 1992, she was appointed to the position of director of college relations. She also serves as student publications advisor for the college's yearbook and newspaper. She has earned many ACSPRA awards.



## Gadsden State receives grant

Gadsden State Community College has been selected as one of 10 community colleges to participate in the American Association of Community Colleges project, "Community Colleges Broadening Horizons through Service Learning."

The college has proposed to enhance students' academic learning, their sense of social responsibility and civic skills through an orientation course in community service. Additional credits will be offered for learning in service field experiences as elective courses. The grant also includes plans to assist community service agencies with development of a computerized directory of locally available community service opportunities. Individual agencies will be able to describe their needs for volunteers on web pages made available via the college homepage.

Project personnel Karen Baltz and Laura Salmon will be working with community service agencies. GSCC English instructor Beryl Odom and Lifelong Learning Director Sue Rudd and other faculty will participate in an advisory committee which will also have student and community representatives.

The local project is an outgrowth of the GSCC student service corps -- the LASERs -- initiated in 1995 by Dr. Victor B. Ficker, GSCC president. Through the student service corps, a limited number of students can earn college tuition by giving service hours to community non-profit agencies. In their third year, LASERs are individually sponsored by local businesses which provide tuition support for a full academic year, fall through spring quarter, for each LASER.

The AACC grant is funded through the Learn and Serve America Program of the Corporation for National Service from Jan. 1 through Aug. 31, 1998.

## Faculty, staff teach each other

With new Internet capabilities, 150 new computers and access to a variety of high-tech software, Central Alabama Community College is looking to its own experts first to provide training and support. A series of Friday-morning professional development sessions was held on each campus this year with great success. Instructors and staff members with expertise in Internet research, desktop publishing and design, Windows '95 use, PowerPoint, scanning text, scanning graphics and other software shared their expertise in hands-on two-hour training sessions held on campus.

"We have many talented employees with expertise to share," said Dr. James H. Cornell, president. "We chose to take advantage of this expertise." The series will be repeated next year as a result of popular demand.

## 'Read Alabama!' continues

Bevill State Community College has formed a unique partnership with several organizations in order to bring literary programs to students and the public free of charge.

In 1992, the last in the series of "Read Alabama" programs sponsored by the Auburn University Center for the Arts and Humanities was brought to Bevill. When Auburn discontinued the series in its original format because of a lack of funding, Bevill State obtained permission from Auburn to take the concept and develop it further. Eventually, the two institutions formed a partnership, with Auburn contacting authors and scholars and Bevill underwriting the expenses. The program was renamed "Read Alabama! The Tradition Continues." Two additional co-sponsors, the Walker County Arts Council and Highland Booksmith, have since joined this partnership. This partnering of a community college, a major state university, a local arts council and private enterprise has resulted in outstanding enrichment for the service area, often for audiences numbering over 100.

## Communication gap bridged

As a means of enhancing interdepartmental communication, Wallace State-Hanceville has set aside specific days each year to hold professional development meetings. To date, three such forums have been held for representatives from academic (English, math, science, computer science and humanities), allied health/nursing, and the technical departments to exchange ideas and discuss areas of concern. Representatives were split into small groups to freely discuss such concerns as strengthening the curriculum by determining course relevance to actual program needs, improving communication between instructors and departments in an effort to enhance student advising, and finding methods to effectively share resources.

## Read-Alot encourages reading

The Lake Martin Literacy Council at Central Alabama Community College is targeting elementary students through this year's Read-Alot contests. ABE Director Dr. Curtis Peterson and Rita Yarbrough, secretary, have encouraged a love of reading among the young with reading contests offering pizza parties, ice cream parties and prizes donated by local vendors. Hundreds of books were read and more than \$3,000 was raised for literacy. "If there are still non-readers in a generation," Yarbrough said, "we can look to these students as a future pool of volunteers, but our goal is to conquer illiteracy. I'd really like to work myself out of a job."



## Teaching & Learning Symposium joins forces with ACA

After two successful years of operating as a professional development initiative under the sponsorship of the Department of Postsecondary Education, the Teaching and Learning Symposium has been incorporated into the functions of the Alabama College Association.

"This arrangement will ensure the longevity of the Teaching and Learning Symposium and provide it with the resources it needs to enhance the quality of workshops and programs," said John Reutter, 1997 symposium chair.

A proposed amendment to the ACA Constitution has been developed to facilitate this new association with the symposium. Under this proposal, the symposium would be organized as a "special purpose commission" that would be responsible for coordinating the planning of the annual Teaching and Learning Symposium. The commission would elect its own chair and vice-chair and report to the Executive Committee of ACA.

The membership of this new commission would be comprised of volunteers from the ranks of the faculty of the Alabama College System just as the Symposium Steering Com-

mittee has been for the symposium's first two years. The purpose of the symposium will not change. The ACA Executive Committee has agreed that the symposium should remain committed to serving the professional development needs of faculty.

During the year, the symposium will be in a state of transition. Reutter has agreed to stay on for another year as symposium chair to assure a smooth transition to its full incorporation within the ACA. A symposium planning committee for the 1998 Symposium has already been formed from volunteers who were 1996 and 1997 Chancellor's Award nominees for academic and technical faculty of the year. To assist in the transition, all 1997 Steering Committee members have also agreed to stay involved in the planning this year as mentors to the new committee members.

The faculty members active in the symposium for the past two years have been unanimous in their enthusiasm for the new association with the ACA and for the support and assistance already given them by the ACA Executive Board this year.

## T&L committee issues call for symposium presentations, panels

If you have one of those truly unique classroom presentations that you can't wait to share with your fellow instructors, the Teaching and Learning Committee would like to hear from you. The symposium planning committee has made arrangements to conduct up to eight sessions of eight workshops each for a total of 64. Due to the broad-based applicability of some of the topics, it is expected that a few of the workshops will be presented more than once; however, even with repeated presentations, more than 40 topics are still likely.

Each session will last for one hour, 15 minutes, which should allow for grouping of some related, short presentations of 20 to 30 minutes within a common session. This new format is expected to encourage a wide range of presentation styles, ranging from hands-on workshops to individual speakers to groups of speakers to panel discussions.

Examples of possible workshops for

the 1998 symposium include (1) hands-on courses in technology such as PowerPoint, Web Page Publishing, and Multimedia Course Authoring, (2) panel and individual presentations on strategies and techniques for successful distance learning experiences (such as televised courses, interactive television, video cassette courses, and Internet course delivery), (3) discussions about collaborative learning environments (local area networks and virtual classrooms), (4) demonstrations of electronic libraries and research activities using Internet technologies, (5) presentations on matching teaching styles to learning styles, (6) demonstrations of simulation software to teach chemistry, physics, CNC machining, and allied health, (7) demonstrations on how to improve student learning through computer adaptive testing and prescriptive diagnostics, (8) discussion on how to integrate technology into the curriculum and how to

network faculty together into a collaborative learning community, (9) discussions on how the semester conversion is proceeding and what problems it is posing, and (10) discussions on how to implement faculty-to-faculty mentoring and utilize master teaching strategies to improve overall instructional quality.

To nominate your presentation or the presentation of a peer, send a **one-page** statement to John Reutter at Northwest-Shoals, including **all** the following: Instructor/Presenter; Discipline; Topic; Presentation Type: (choose one) Lecture-Long (1:15), Lecture-Short (20-30 min), Hands-On Wkshp (1:15), Panel Discussion (1:15), Demonstration (1:15), Demonstration (20-30 min); Presenter's Institution; Presenter's Phone #; Nominated By (if other than presenter); Nominator's Phone #; Pertinent Remarks (this section will be important in selecting presentations; explain why presentation is important); Audio/Visual/Computer Requirements.



## Popular educator agrees to return engagement as keynote speaker at T&L Symposium

Dr. Edward "Chip" Anderson, last year's Teaching and Learning Symposium keynoter, by popular request has agreed to return as this year's keynoter. In addition to his keynote address, Anderson will conduct a series of workshops on "optimal" teaching and learning.

For the past two years, Anderson has been researching the concept of optimal learning and developing courses to train students how to become optimal learners. His research has led him to a series of lectures and workshops to teach faculty to become optimal educators. In his workshops, he shows how to tap into student motivation and find the "hooks" within each student that lead to optimal learning.

Anderson holds a B.A. in speech and history and an M.A. in adult education from Pasadena College and a Ph. D. from UCLA in psychological counseling. As instructor and program coordinator in counseling psychology at UCLA, Anderson coordinates doctoral student admission and practicum placement and has developed a joint doctoral program in at-risk prevention and intervention. He remains active in the classroom by teaching three graduate courses and five undergraduate courses each semester. Attendees of last year's symposium will remember Anderson as the "leaky bucket guy" who used humor and wit to draw attention to the need to maintain continuous growth and self-development in order to remain effective as professional teachers.

## 'Strategies & Technologies' is theme for 1998 T&L Symposium

The 1998 Teaching and Learning Symposium for the Alabama College System will be held at the Birmingham Civic Center on Oct. 29 and 30, 1998. This year the symposium will be devoted to the presentation and discussion of "strategies and technologies to enhance teaching and learning." Comments by attendees of last year's symposium have encouraged symposium organizers to expand the number of workshops and retain the three-guest speaker format. Dr. Chip Anderson, the "leaky bucket" professor from UCLA who keynoted last year's symposium, has accepted an invitation to return as keynoter and to also lead two or three workshops on teaching strategies. Other guest speakers have not yet been chosen but the symposium committee is considering several excellent candidates to entertain and challenge you.

As has been the case for the past two years, the symposium is designed and produced by Alabama College System faculty for the purpose of sharing ideas from exemplary programs throughout the state and for engaging in quality professional development. The symposium will remain dedicated to keeping faculty current in their disciplines and to improving instructional techniques that produce positive learning outcomes. As before, the symposium organizers are comprised of faculty volunteers from the Alabama College System's two-year colleges. This year's group includes more than 50 Chancellor's Awards nominees for 1996 and 1997 academic and technical faculty of the year. This large and energetic group has been hard at work since the first of the year preparing for the 1998 symposium and feels challenged by fellow faculty members to make this symposium the best ever.

Although the symposium's focus is on faculty development, other college employees are encouraged to attend. Many of the workshop and keynote topics will be of universal appeal to all college employees. Last year, for example, the most popular workshop was a hands-on training session in Microsoft PowerPoint presentation software. Since that workshop, many non-instructional attendees have used the PowerPoint techniques they learned in the workshop. Other workshops to be repeated this year with value to those outside the classroom include the Web Page Authoring workshop and the Internet Research Techniques workshop. The symposium committee is seeking speakers, presenters and panelists who desire an opportunity to discuss, debate and present material that will help attendees improve their own teaching and learning outcomes.

Registration will begin in August 1998. The pre-registration fee has been set at \$65 per attendee. The conference will begin at 8 a.m. on Thursday, Oct. 29 and continue through 1:30 p.m. Friday. As usual, the Sheraton-Civic Center Hotel will honor a convention rate on rooms for those who reserve in advance. Registration forms and further details will be mailed to colleges at the beginning of fall semester. If you have questions or suggestions, contact John Reutter, symposium chair, at Northwest-Shoals Community College, 256/331-5315 or e-mail him at [jreutter@hiwaay.net](mailto:jreutter@hiwaay.net).



## Physics is fun for third grade

What do you get when you mix 18 energetic children, 12 boiled eggs, 10 rolls of toilet paper, five glass beakers, five bright college students, two plastic cups, two tubs of water, two metal bars, two leaf blowers, one zany college instructor and a beach ball?

Third-grade physics is a joint project of Central Alabama Community College and Stephens School in Alexander City. Students from K.W. "Nick" Nicholson's college physics class visit a third-grade science class twice monthly to perform experiments, demonstrate physics principles and encourage a love of science.

"Third grade is the pivotal year where you can really develop an interest in the sciences among kids," Nicholson said. "As a pilot project, we wanted to work with a group of third grade students to see if we could have that kind of impact."

Students enjoy the demonstrations of concepts ranging from pressure to Bernoulli's principle, velocity to inertia.

According to third-grade teacher Ann Goree, Nicholson and his students are a big hit with the third-grade set. In fact, her class has become the envy of third-grade classes throughout the school.

"This program is fantastic," Goree said. "They are learning that science is a real-world phenomenon that can be interesting, exciting and fun."

## Sparks employees earn honors

Elizabeth Chance, cosmetology instructor at Sparks State Technical College, was recently elected District 3 president for the Alabama Hairdressers Association. She also serves on the Alabama Hair Fashion Committee and on the Board of Directors for the Alabama Cosmetology Association.

Betty Day, Sparks State Technical College's adult education supervisor, was honored by the Eufaula Tribune in February as a "Person Who Makes a Difference." Day was nominated by an anonymous member of the community for her work with the Barbour County Literacy Association.

Leslie Griffin, cabinetmaking instructor for Sparks State's technical program at Easterling Correctional Facility in Clio, was named associate support employee of the quarter at Easterling in December. Although Griffin is a full-time employee of Sparks Tech, he was eligible for this award because he works on-site at the prison as an "associate." His nomination pointed to his dedication to the betterment of his students and his positive attitude as examples of his contributions to Easterling Correctional Facility.



Dr. Ethel H. Hall

## Technology headlines Lawson's Professional Development Day

Several presenters were on hand for the annual spring Faculty/Staff Professional Development Day at Lawson State Community College. Addressing the theme "Preparing our Students to Meet the Challenges of the 21st Century through Educational Technology," speakers gave information on topics ranging from distance learning to an overview of the two-year college system's current use of technology.

Dr. Ethel H. Hall, District IV representative and vice president of the Alabama State Board of Education, brought greetings on its behalf and commended Lawson State for making great achievements and continuously moving the college forward. Dr. Hall addressed ideas and concerns that are relevant to Lawson State and very particular to the postsecondary system, such as remedial education, program review, the semester conversion, business and industry involvement and job placement for completers.

"It's going to take all of us to make the two-year system what it ought to be," Dr. Hall said. "Look for excellence everywhere and let it start with you."

Session presenters included Don Kelly, director, information systems services; Dr. Bert Slafter, assistant to the vice chancellor for instructional programs; and Dorenda McConnell, all of the Alabama Department of Postsecondary Education. Other presenters were Diane Layton, registrar, and Jim Jolly, English instructor, Shelton State; and Dr. Pam Snow, director of educational partnerships, Minneola, Fla.

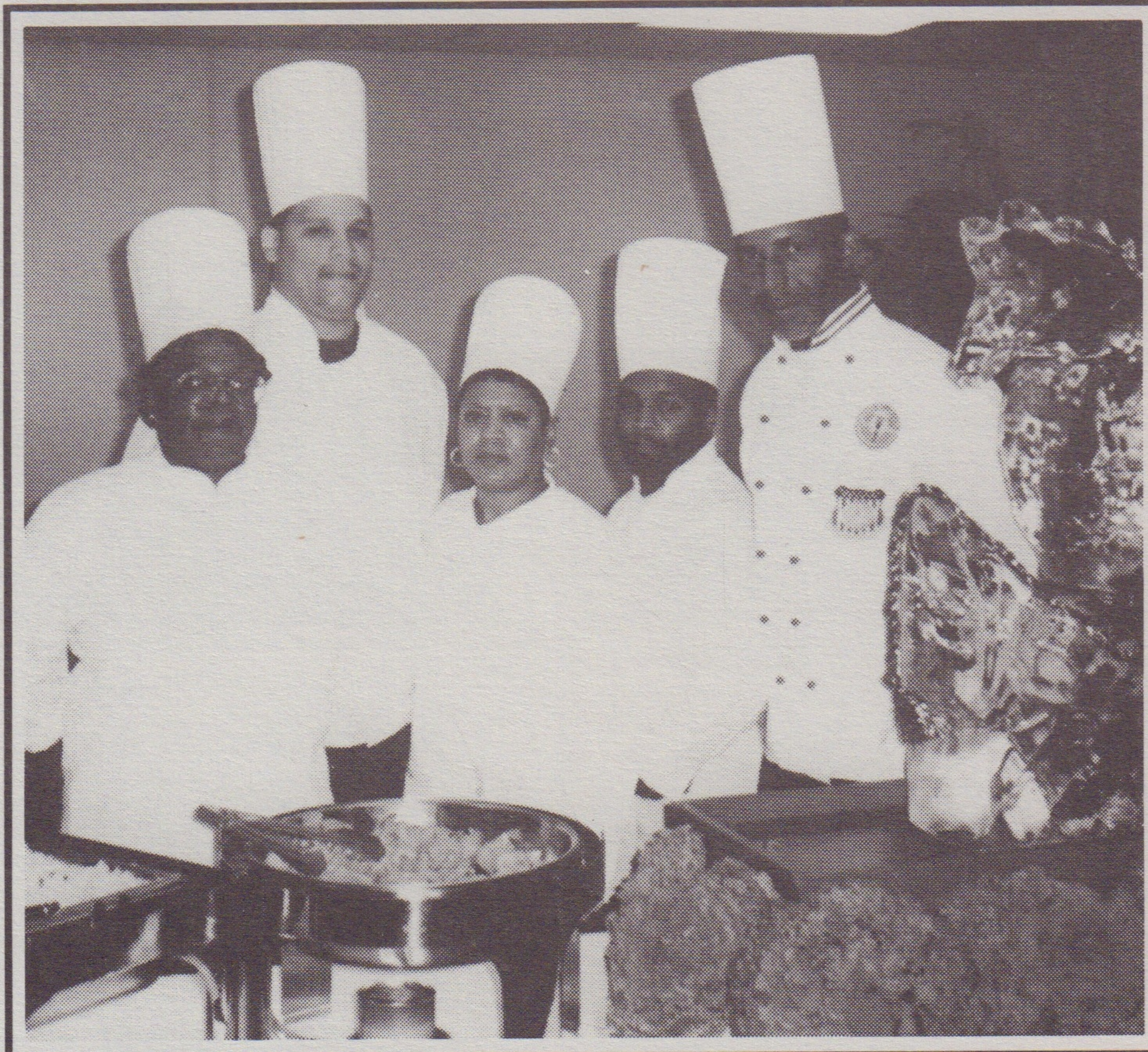


## Bishop food service program earns national accreditation

The American Culinary Federation Educational Institute has awarded a three-year accreditation to Bishop State Community College's commercial food service program at the college's Carver campus. Bishop State is now one of 150 schools in the nation to be accredited by the institute.

The accreditation is a volunteer action by the institution that requires that the curriculum, faculty, facilities, resources, support staff and organizational structure meet quality standards. These standards assure graduates of the culinary program that the curriculum of their career choice has been guided by the American Culinary Federation, which represents cooks, bakers and other culinary professionals in the United States.

The culinary program at Bishop State offers a two-year associate in applied science degree or a certificate. A student who attends classes on a full-time basis and whose academic progress is satisfactory could complete this program, either degree



Food service program prepares culinary professionals

or certificate, in six quarters. Both options prepare a student for entry-level positions as menu planners, cooks, chefs, meat cutters, servers, salad makers, bakers and other related positions in the food industry.

## American Heart Association selects NACC as training center

The southeastern region of the American Heart Association recently named Northeast Alabama Community College as Alabama's first Community Training Center (CTC). The CTC will be responsible for providing emergency cardiovascular care (ECC) training, including courses in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), advanced cardiac life support (ACLS), and pediatric advanced life support (PALS).

Over the past several years the American Heart Association developed a plan that would restructure its emergency cardiovascular care training network nationwide to better utilize local resources in the delivery of cardiac train-

ing. These local resources, according to the American Heart Association, are better equipped to serve the needs of their community.

Agencies interested in becoming community training centers must apply for and show their ability to serve the community as a training center. Proof of adequate resources, computer equipment, training equipment, and oversight are among the things required of a new CTC. Northeast was the first agency in Alabama to become accredited under this new model.

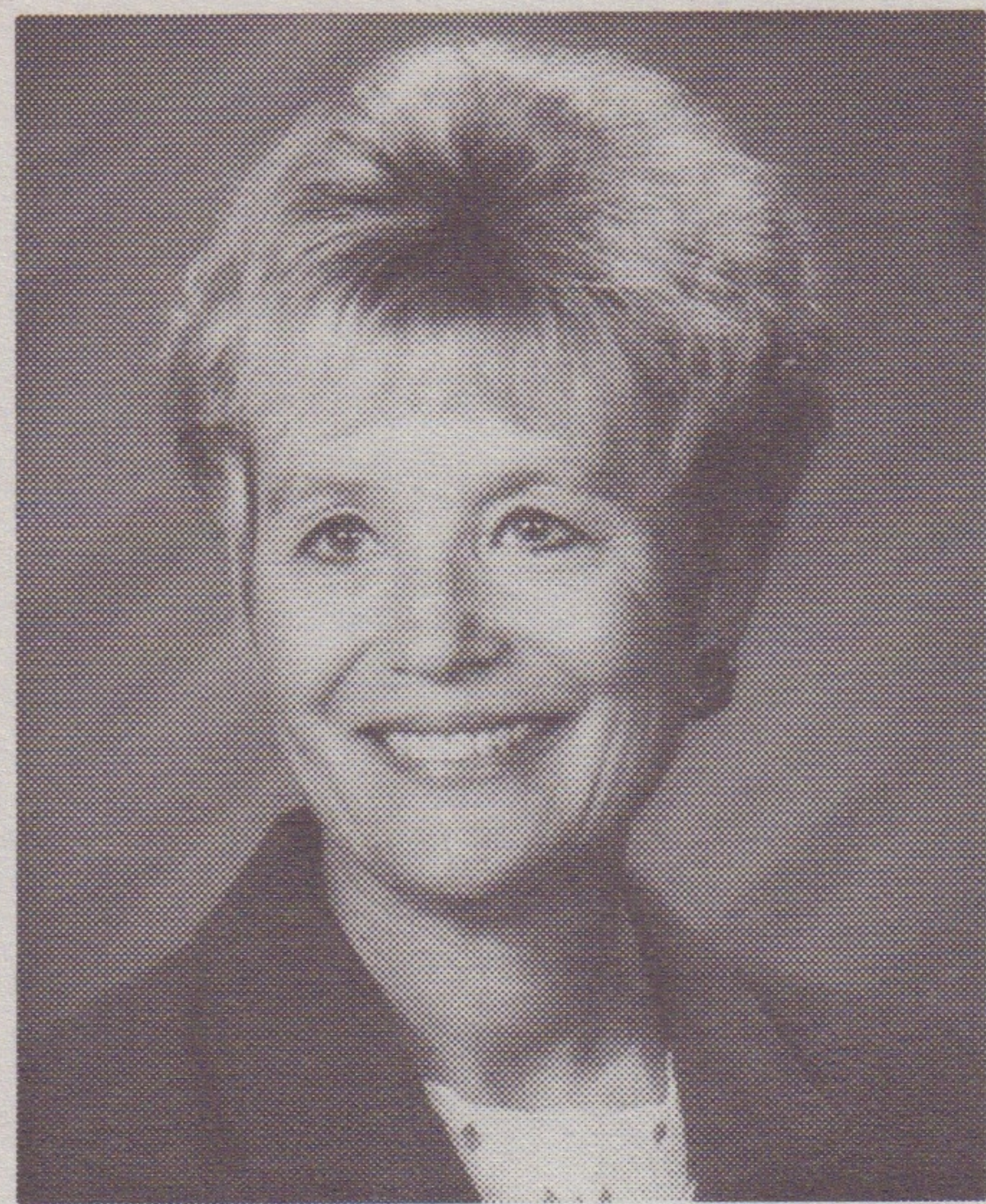
"The major change is that things that were handled in Birmingham under the old system will now be handled locally

through the CTC," said Mike Kennamer, EMS director at Northeast and coordinator of the CTC. "The American Heart Association felt that its resources could be better utilized in the development of cardiovascular care science rather than in the day-to-day administration of its training programs."

Northeast's CTC will serve Jackson, DeKalb and parts of Marshall and Cherokee counties. A number of hospitals and some industries have approached Kennamer with the intent to form a partnership for delivery of this training.

Northeast's CTC received accreditation in early January and began operation Feb. 1, 1998.





Gwin

## Reid instructor gains honor

Pat Gwin, chairperson of health careers at Reid State Technical College, was elected to serve as president of the Alabama Council of Practical Nurse Educators for 1998-99. The council is made up of educators from 21 schools of practical nursing in Alabama. The organization is concerned with all issues that impact practical nurses and education. The group plans and promotes educational programs, facilitates effective communication with related organizations and strives for uniformity in standards and expected outcomes in practical nursing education.



King helps celebrate Black History Month

## Campus designated 'historically black'

Gadsden State Community College Valley Street campus celebrated Black History Month and the college's designation as one of America's Historically Black Colleges and Universities with an address by Dr. Martin Luther King, III. Dr. King, president of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, visited Gadsden State Community College's Valley Street campus, the newly designated Historically Black College, for a tour in February.

William Craig Campbell, mayor of Atlanta, addressed founders, students and other honored guests on Feb. 26 at an open house on the Valley Street campus.

Pictured above, from left, are Dr. Victor B. Ficker, president, GSCC; Mrs. Gertie Lowe, chair, Gadsden/Etowah County chapter, SCLC; the Rev. John S. Nettles, national vice president, SCLC; Willie L. Duncan, academic director -- industrial and construction technologies, GSCC; Dr. Martin Luther King, III, SCLC president; Mario Jackson, Gadsden city councilman; the Rev. A.A. Scales, president, Gadsden/Etowah County chapter, SCLC; the Rev. Ed Bonner, retired Gadsden State evening program director.

## Bevill State provides worker retraining in Fayette county

Bevill State Community College has taken a leading role in the provision of educational opportunities for workers at two Fayette county area industries which are closing--Onieta and Shelby Die-Casting. With the closure of these two local industries, Bevill State is currently providing vital services to those workers affected by the layoffs.

Onieta employees are taking advantage of free computer literacy classes de-

signed to help prepare them for entry into mainstream academic and technical training studies. Employees are taking advantage of the courses and enrolling in certificate and degree programs at the Brewer campus. Bevill State is providing assistance in the form of pre-enrollment briefings, ASSET and ACT testing and counseling, ABE referrals, and enrolling persons in developmental studies.

The Bevill Training for Business and

Industry program has also entered into an agreement with NTN Bower Corporation to provide welding upgrade and certification training for selected employees of the Marion county industry.

The 140-contact-hour course will be conducted at the welding facility on the Hamilton campus. Certification will consist of an independent laboratory's testing of welds made by students and verifying the skills involved.



## Grant provides faculty with training in technology use

Enterprise State Junior College faculty have begun to take advantage of professional development funds provided by a Title III grant, specifically for training with technology as it would be used to benefit students. Allowable training includes computer hardware and software training, Internet use training and training for web page design.

Frank Fanucci, Wanda Flowers, Betty Cully and Linda Gordon from ESJC attended the Oct. 12-15 Conference on Technology sponsored by The League for Innovation in the Community College in Atlanta.

More than 280 forums and roundtable sessions were available. Session topics included "Instructor computer phobia: a community college prescription," "Work smarter, not harder, with multimedia," and "Getting the most for your money: purchasing technology without having a coronary," among many others. Sessions were conducted by community college faculty, professional staff and administrators who demonstrated how technology could be used to enhance classroom presentations, facilitate information management and improve campus-wide communication.

In addition to the scheduled sessions, the conference offered access to "hands-on" computer laboratories set up by hardware and software manufacturers, including Microsoft, Sun Microsystems, Compaq, and Dell. Vendors representing software, hardware, and publishing interests also provided brochures and demonstrations.

Lewie Vickers, Frank Fanucci, and Sue Baum attended a computer maintenance and repair workshop in Dothan this February. The workshop focused on upgrading computers and troubleshooting software and hardware problems. This information will assist them in teaching computer maintenance technology and in keeping classroom computers functioning with as little downtime as possible. Wanda Flowers, Karen Logan, Patsy Chalker and Richard Emanuel also attended the New Directions in Education Technology for Faculty and Administrators Syllabus Workshops held at Florida Gulf Coast University in February.

A special on-campus professional development opportunity was held in March. Dr. Jean Love from Northwest-Shoals Community College conducted a workshop for faculty and staff on the characteristics of the changing student population in two-year colleges. Dr. Love has served as director of admissions, interim dean of instruction and director of institutional research and planning.



Jeff State administrators meet with AIB representatives

## Continuing partnership develops Alabama's banking professionals

For more than a quarter of a century, Jefferson State Community College and the American Institute of Banking have worked together in partnership to educate banking professionals.

Recently, Jefferson State American Institute of Banking (AIB) coordinator and business instructor Dr. Clark Schatz conducted a tribute luncheon at Jefferson State to recognize AIB volunteers for their efforts.

"Jefferson State's partnership with Alabama AIB produces skilled workers that are strongly needed by the banking community," said Schatz. "We wanted to show our appreciation for their commitment."

Alabama AIB is an educational organization offering timely, cost effective, professional, continuing education programs which demonstrate the commitment to bankers teaching bankers. The chapter maintains the highest administrative standards required by its governing associations and affiliate colleges.

"Through this partnership, Jefferson State has built strong ties with the banking industry in Birmingham and around the state," said Schatz. "It is important to our students and to our college to maintain a relationship with AIB where we work well together ... and we are succeeding in that effort."

**Prepare to attend the 1998  
Teaching & Learning Symposium  
October 29-30, 1998**



### Center dedicated

The Tom Bevill Center for Environmental Technology was dedicated in December at the Northwest-Shoals Community College Shoals campus.

Pictured are (l-r): Dr. Larry McCoy, president; Dr. Fred Gainous, chancellor; Bud Cramer, 5th district congressman; Tom Bevill, congressman, ret.; Howell Heflin, U.S. Senator, ret.; Sandra Ray, State Board of Education member; and Craven Crowell, TVA chairman.



## Calhoun Community College to provide Boeing training

As part of the incentive package which convinced Boeing Co. officials to locate the company's new rocket booster plant in Decatur, Calhoun Community College will train up to 900 people a year in an ongoing aerospace training program. According to Dr. Richard Carpenter, Calhoun president, in the initial start-up phase Calhoun will work with Boeing and Alabama Industrial Development Training to train workers for the aerospace company.

The training agreement provides for the construction of a \$6 million building on Calhoun's Decatur campus and an additional \$12 million for equipment and staffing costs. Funds for the building construction and training costs will come from state sources.

The new Aerospace Training Center will provide instructional programming in such areas as aerospace technology and airframe technology. Construction of the state-funded facility will begin in mid-1998 with completion

planned by 2000. The Aerospace Training Center is to be one of three initiatives to comprise the Aerospace and Advanced Technologies Complex at Calhoun.

The complex will be composed of physical and virtual educational facilities and resources designed to meet the workforce needs of North Alabama and beyond. The work of the complex will occur in three distinct but interrelated centers which will focus on the technologies and services which North Alabama employers have indicated are most needed for the 21st century.

According to Carpenter, in addition to the Boeing Aerospace Training Center, the Aerospace and Advanced Technology Complex will be made up of an Advanced Manufacturing Center and a Center for Visualization Technology. Funding for the Advanced Manufacturing Center is set to come from the college's Partners in Progress capital campaign.

In 1997, the college received a \$97,000 research and planning grant from the National Science Foundation to consider the use of virtual reality and other advanced computer visualization technology in community college education. The college plans to pursue additional federal funding for construction of the Visualization Technology Center.

It is expected that the Boeing training program will become a two-year degree program at the college. Calhoun will draw on several of its existing programs for the proposed aerospace technology training curriculum, such as welding and electrical technology as well as the missiles and munitions program the college currently offers in conjunction with Redstone Arsenal.

"The Boeing project is truly a partnership between Calhoun and Boeing," said Carpenter. "This project represents not only a major commitment for the city of Decatur but also for Calhoun's Decatur campus."



## Northwest-Shoals commits to assist displaced workers

A commitment that may exceed \$260,000 in assistance for displaced workers has been made by Northwest-Shoals Community College.

Northwest-Shoals president Larry McCoy gained State Board approval in January for a tuition reduction of up to 50 percent for workers who have become unemployed since Jan. 1, 1998. This offer will remain in effect for workers who become unemployed prior to 1999. The tuition waiver, designed to facilitate retraining of displaced workers, is currently limited to employees from five Tennessee Valley companies.

"This is a critical time in the economic life of the Shoals," McCoy said. "Workers and their families have long supported Northwest-Shoals and promoted its growth. A tuition waiver is a repayment of that support. We're helping workers help themselves."

The Northwest-Shoals service area is experiencing a series of plant closures and reductions in the workforce. Its unemployment rate is among the highest in the state.

"Our community colleges often are utilized to recruit new industry," said state board member Sandra Ray. "We need to be innovative in sustaining existing industry. It is vital that we provide educational opportunities to our citizens and Northwest-Shoals' initiative is a short-term effort to assist the Shoals area workers during a time of acute economic instability."

McCoy offered his appreciation for approval of the plan.

"I am pleased the Chancellor and the Board supported this plan to help the citizens of Northwest Alabama," he said.

## Internet delivery examined

In April, instructors at Central Alabama Community College gained hands-on experience in teaching Internet courses as Dr. Richard Wilmarth and Jimmy Nix, division chairs for the Alexander City campus, provided a workshop to familiarize faculty with the architecture for teaching an Internet course. Wilmarth, who is currently teaching the college's first Internet course, discussed the strengths and weaknesses of such a course, with emphasis on the one-on-one communication Internet courses provide with students who might otherwise be reluctant to ask questions of instructors. Faculty members were excited about the possibilities of using the architecture to design their own courses; goals were set for expansion of Internet offerings during the next two years.



### CVCC art instructor honored

Cathy Ledbetter, art instructor at Chattahoochee Valley Community College, was selected as an employee winner in the Chancellor's Art Exhibition '97. Dr. Fred Gainous, chancellor, Alabama Department of Postsecondary Education, presented Ledbetter with an award for her painting "Delicate Edges and Sisters" and sculpture "Sisters." Both works were exhibited during the ACA conference in Birmingham.

## Club sponsor attends workshop

Montez Vickers, sponsor of the Enterprise State Junior College Creative Writing Club, attended a Family Fair Creative Writing Workshop for Teachers recently, led by New York author Peter Stillman. The purpose of the workshop was to provide teachers with techniques for stimulating creative writing ideas in students. The workshop was sponsored in conjunction with a writing competition in honor of author Maya Angelou for the Alabama Cooperative Extension System's Family Fair.

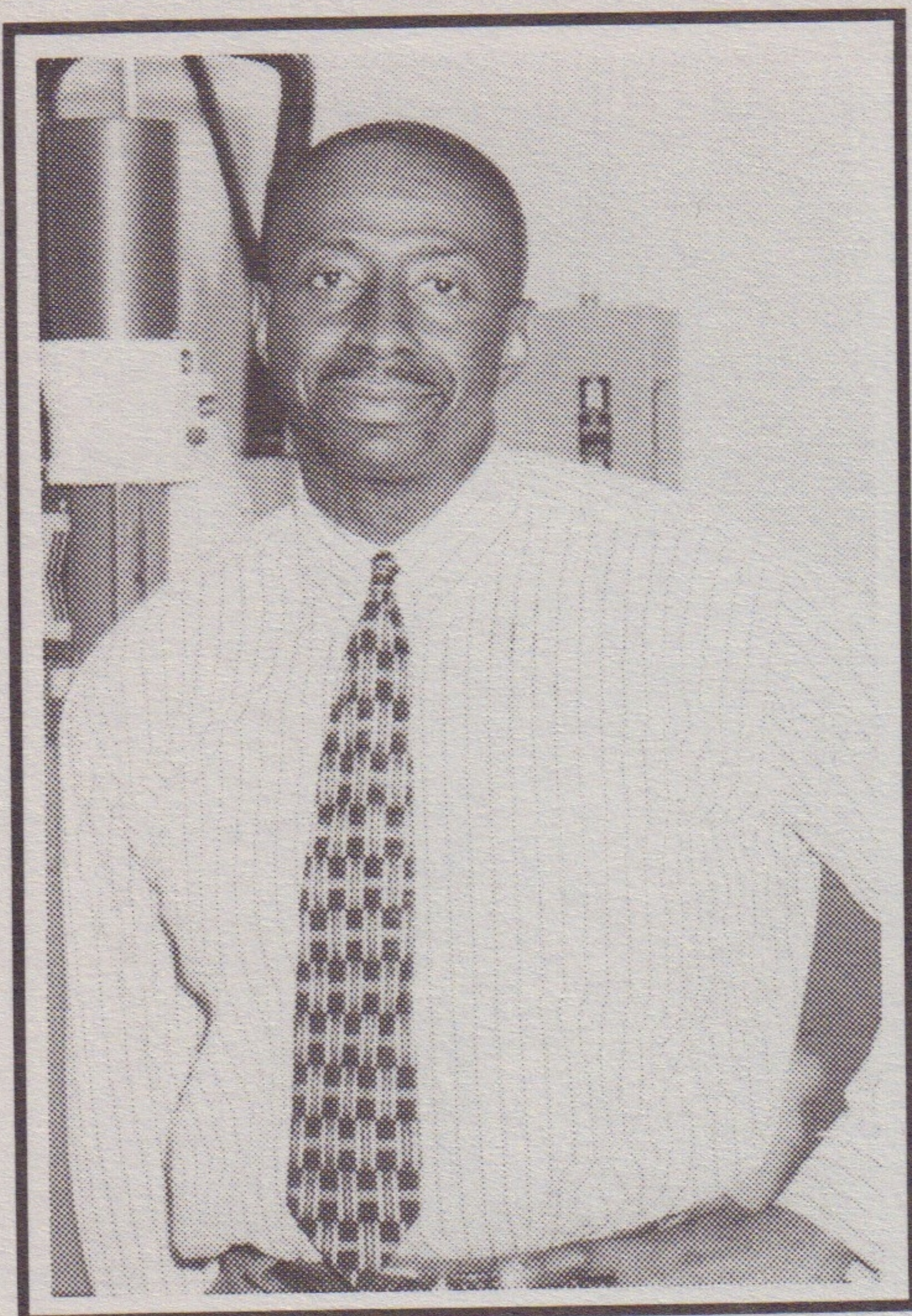
## Motorcycle training classes set

J.F. Drake State Technical College and the University of Montevallo have partnered to provide motorcycle safety classes for motorcycle novices and experienced riders.

The classes are taught across the state through Alabama's Motorcycle Safety Program, which was mandated by the State Legislature in 1969 to reduce crashes and injuries through rider education, to increase public awareness of motorcycle safety and to conduct research programs.

Jack McCain is the on-site coordinator.





Jackie Woods

## Woods receives national award

Members of the American Welding Society have selected Jackie Woods, welding instructor at MacArthur State Technical College, as co-recipient of the national Howard E. Adkins Memorial Instructor Membership Award. This award honors an outstanding teacher for his or her "contributions to the science and technology of welding," according to American Welding Society (AWS) spokesperson Wendy Reeve.

As an applicant, Woods first earned the Section 9 nomination for the Southern Alabama section of AWS. He then went on to win the five-state district nomination and finally the national nomination.

His experience included writing training programs for Amoco of Andalusia and other companies, writing welding procedures for mechanics at Poole Trucking Co., Inc., helping Carter Manufacturing of Brundidge obtain American Iron and Steel Construction certification and serving as a test administrator for Shaw Industries. His certifications include certified welding inspector for AWS; certified welder in all phases with the U.S. Navy, Coast Guard, State of Alabama, American Bureau of Shipbuilding, City of Pittsburgh, and Fluor Daniel; certified welding instructor and certified welding educator.

## Colleges celebrate Community College Month

For more than 50 years, community, technical and junior colleges have provided the training needed to compete in this rapidly changing and increasingly competitive world. These colleges have remained committed to public service and work daily to help individuals reach their personal goals and, in the process, build stronger communities.

Each April, communities across the nation celebrate Community College Month. This year, the Alabama College System Public Relations Association (ACSPRA) again led the way in urging everyone in the Alabama College System to tell the two-year college story. This year's theme was Community Colleges: Meeting the Challenges of the 21st Century. Some of the projects colleges put into place to celebrate included:

- The Hon. Gov. Fob James issued a proclamation urging all Alabamians and business and industry leaders who are committed to developing Alabama's work force for the 21st century to use and support their local two-year colleges.

- The Alabama State Board of Education adopted a resolution proclaiming April as National Community College Month.

- Public service announcements aired on television and radio stations across the state in recognition of April as National Community College Month.

- Each institution organized its own campaign to educate the community about the services available at that institution.

## Community seminar at Shelton features Marsha Folsom

Former Alabama First Lady Marsha Folsom was at Shelton State Community College in February for a special seminar entitled "Community by Design: Changing Public Policy at the Grass Roots." Sponsored by the Lifetime Learning Series of the college, the seminar focused on the characteristics of a community as well as the development of leadership skills for community mem-

bers.

In her former role as First Lady, Mrs. Folsom conducted "listening sessions" throughout the state. She discovered people were eager to contribute their thoughts on building stronger and more involved communities.

"If we are to improve the lives of our children," she said, "we must involve everyone and concentrate on the kind

of community environment that affects each life."

Mrs. Folsom continues her support of children's issues through her work with Voices for Alabama Children, an umbrella organization for child advocacy. She is a member of the Cullman City School Board and originated the Cullman City School Foundation. She is a member of Leadership Alabama.



## Lawson State opens day care, community centers

Lawson State Community College has joined in a partnership among Cooper Green Hospital and Motherly Day Care Center to open a health care center and day care center. This represents a joint welfare-to-work effort between the college and private industry.

Both centers, located in a college building, will operate a flexible schedule to meet the needs of the students, faculty and community. The college will also train students who will serve as interns in the new facilities.

The Extended Day Care Center, D.B.A. Motherly Care, will provide service for some 65 infants and toddlers. Through a partnership with the Jefferson County Department of Human Resources, Child Care Resources and other agencies, the day care will provide transportation, training and child care.

Health Plus +, an entity of the Jefferson County Commission/Cooper Green Hospital will function as a medical facility that will provide reasonable and affordable health care to the students, eligible staff and faculty of the college, as well as citizens of Birmingham and Jefferson County.

These centers are an integration in conjunction with the Lawson State Community Outreach and Partnership Center (COPC) which strives to maintain a working relationship with private industry and business, neighborhoods, and other organizations by providing appropriate job training skills.

College officials say this is one of the first of this concept for a community college in Alabama.

"This is not lip service on the welfare-to-work issue. This is helping to do it," said Perry W. Ward, LSCC president.

## Conference benefits advisor

Jane Boos, academic advisor for Student Support Services, a TRIO program at Central Alabama Community College, recently attended the 26th annual Southeastern Association of Educational Opportunity Program Personnel (SAEOPP) conference in Mobile.

"The conference was great," Boos said. "There were so many sessions which were actually useful that I had difficulty selecting which I would attend." She gained insight into student tracking software, use of the world wide web and TRIO laws and regulations. "I have always believed that our student body has a wealth of ability and talent," she said, "but this conference has opened my eyes even further. I realize that every student who comes through our doors has unlimited potential."



Sam Morton, CVCC instructor

## Speaker's Bureau developed

Chattahoochee Valley Community College recently developed a community-wide Speaker's Bureau. The bureau is a free service offered to area high schools, organizations, agencies and companies. One of the first faculty members to sign on as a presenter was instructor Sam Morton.

Morton has served CVCC and the community over the past 24 years as a faculty member, 13 of those as chair of the Business Department. With more than 32 years in education, he brings a wealth of knowledge and a passion for sharing that knowledge with his students.

Morton recently completed three presentations for the Columbus Fire Department, focusing on leadership and development. The program was so well received that the fire personnel presented him with a plaque acknowledging both his and CVCC's commitment and leadership to the community.



## Cooperative agreement yields apprenticeship program

John M. Patterson State Technical College and Wallace Community College have joined hands with International Paper (IP) in a cooperative agreement that will provide mill employees with an innovative apprenticeship program for general mechanic and/or electrical/instrumentation technology. Approximately 20 percent of the four-year, 8000-hour training program is academic course work provided by the two colleges. Wallace will be providing the academic courses and Patterson will be providing the technical courses. Forty percent is at-the-job, observing journeymen, and 40 percent is on-the-job, executing real-world work under the instruction and evaluation of mill journeymen.

The graduates will receive a journeyman's certificate from the Department of Labor. They will also earn an associate degree in industrial mechanical technology or electrical/instrumentation technology from Patterson State Technical College.

Patterson College has a full-time technical instructor on site at IP every day presenting courses in support of this program. With this arrangement, the instructor and IP are allowed to schedule classes around the mill work schedule. Although a class schedule is planned, the agreement allows both parties to reschedule classes as required due to mill work requirements. This is a "win-win" situation for all parties involved. The mill gets the most out of the trainees during a given workday and their class schedule does not take away from the normal mill operation. This kind of training agreement is truly an educational/training partnership.

IP is on the cutting edge of technology in their plant operation and they must remain so in order to compete on the world market. As such, this partnership also allows for IP and Patterson to adjust course requirements as the needs of the work place dictate. This is an innovative approach to



From left, Larry Taunton, president, Patterson Tech, Dr. Fred Gainous, chancellor, and Dr. Julius Brown, president, George C. Wallace State, meet with IP employee

meeting the needs of highly technical industries like IP. This kind of flexibility in program development and presentation is necessary if technical education is expected to keep abreast of industry needs.

"This educational-industrial joint venture represents a significant and visionary means for delivering occupational and general education course to Riverdale Mill employees," said Dr. Fred Gainous, chancellor.

This joint venture has been in the negotiation phase for several months. The combined cooperation of all involved was necessary to seek and gain approval for both colleges to provide this service to IP despite the crossing of institutional "service areas."

## Institute for Learning in Retirement is growing at Ayers State

The large number of active retired and semi-retired elders who live in the three-county area served by Ayers State Technical College in Anniston are becoming lifelong learners through the Ayers Institute for Learning in Retirement in partnership with the National Elderhostel Institute. The ILR gives it members a chance to fully utilize their skills, talents, experiences and intelligence in their retirement years.

The response to the first round of studies for the spring quarter at Ayers State has been excellent, with a total of 10 courses offered as a result of input from members. Some members also teach courses. The institute is also making use of local speakers as guest lecturers. One seminar, "How to talk to your doctor," was presented by Dr. Robert Lockey, a local retired physician. The session was designed to im-

prove the patient-doctor relationship and to help members understand health articles in newspaper magazines. A followup session showed members how to "surf the net," with special emphasis on how to access health-related information.

Membership services include access to a picture I.D. certifying that the holder is a senior citizen entitled to senior citizen privileges.





Glenda Fogleman

## GSCC secretary earns top honor

Glenda Fogleman, Gadsden State Community College secretary in the office of public relations, was recently selected 1998 Secretary of the Year by the Gadsden chapter of Professional Secretaries International.

Fogleman is a Certified Professional Secretary and has worked in the secretarial field for 18 years. She serves the local PSI chapter as corresponding secretary and membership chair. She was previously employed for five years as secretary to the Chancellor of the Alabama Department of Postsecondary Education in Montgomery.

She and her husband reside in Ashville.

## Drake employees receive recognition

Dr. Johnny Harris, president of J.F. Drake State Technical College, was selected as the first recipient of the Mahogany Award by the nonprofit organization Coalition on At-Risk Minority Males (COARMM). The award was presented to Dr. Harris at a Booker T. Washington tribute dinner, where he was recognized for his community service and leadership qualities.

Several Drake employees have recently received professional and civic awards including the following:

Harold Batts, development director, was named president of the Council for Alabama Resource Development (CARD). CARD promotes communication, collaboration, and cooperation among resource development officers in colleges within the Alabama College System.

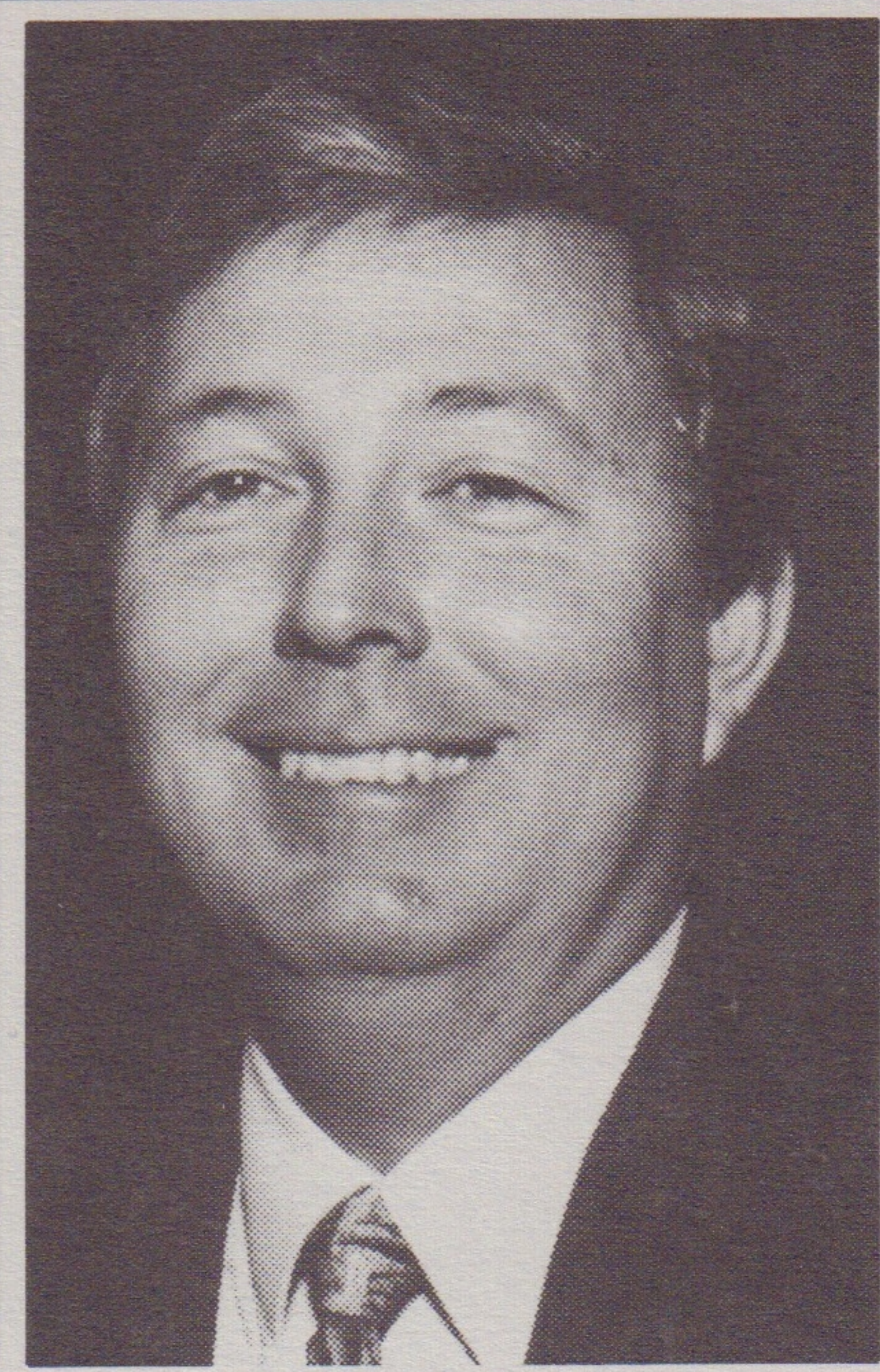
Drafting and design technology instructor Bethan Clem has been selected to serve on the board of directors for the Alabama Association of Vocational

Industrial Clubs of America. She fills the postsecondary faculty representative position.

Vickye Hester, student placement and public relations director, has been named an Outstanding Young Woman of America. She was selected for community service, professional organization memberships and volunteer efforts.

Industrial electricity instructor Jack McCain and air conditioning and refrigeration instructors Dexter Henry and William Pockrus received certified instructor status by the National Center for Construction Education and Research (NCCER). This certification allows instructors to use the Wheel of Learning instructional materials which are used in construction-related programs and developed by NCCER.

Mark Whigham, management information specialist, was recently selected as a member of Strathmore's Who's Who and Who's Who in American Education.



Rogers

## Shelton employee earns top honor

Dr. Rick Rogers, assistant to Shelton State Community College President Tom Umphrey, was named Administrator of the Year for the state of Alabama by the Alabama College Association for 1997. Rogers was presented this award during the annual Chancellor's Awards ceremony held in conjunction with the ACA Conference in November.

"Rick Rogers has spent an untold number of hours working to make Shelton one of the top institutions in the region and country," Umphrey said.

Rogers received his B.S. and his doctorate from the University of Alabama and his M.S. degree from the University of South Alabama. Before joining the staff of Shelton State, Rogers was employed at Bessemer State Technical College and the University of Alabama. He and his wife Carolyn have two children, Bryant and Laura.



## Wallace-Selma gains rural grant

Wallace Community College Selma is the recipient of a \$150,000 grant from the Ford Foundation as a part of the Rural Community College Initiative (RCCI).

RCCI is designed to help rural colleges expand opportunities for local citizens to attend college and promote economic development in the region.

The grant will be used to improve educational access through aggressive recruitment, augmented student counseling, and increased student retention. In addition, economic development will be improved by an expanded service area for business and industry training, and by establishing a regional economic planning base for new and existing businesses.

Title III Coordinator Ronda Westry, writer of the grant, said that the program, which was originally a one-year planning grant, is now funded for the next two years.

During 1997, WCCS, in collaboration with various community agencies, spent seven months planning the goals and activities for the recently funded grant. The WCCS RCCI planning team has evolved into an implementation team that will be responsible for managing and executing the activities prescribed in the grant. Ms. Westry said that the previous year of planning was a success.

"The team was very instrumental in formulating goals that will increase educational access for all citizens in West Central Alabama and promote strong economic development within the WCCS service area," she said.

The Ford Foundation, established in 1936, is a private, nonprofit institution that serves as a resource for innovative people and institutions worldwide.



### ACSPRA Executive Committee installed

The 1997-98 Executive Committee members for the Alabama College System Public Relations Association (ACSPRA) were installed at the Alabama College Association's annual convention in Birmingham in November. Executive committee members include, from left, Laura Salmon, Gadsden State Community College, past president; Herb Jordan, Bishop State Community College, president; Vickye Hester, Drake State Technical College, president-elect; Alesia Stuart, Reid State Technical College, treasurer; Geri Albright, Lawson State Community College, secretary; Steve Spratlin, Southern Union State Community College, publicity chair; Richard Mould, Athens State College, member-at-large; Keron Forte, Alabama Department of Postsecondary Education, ex-officio. Not pictured is Janet Kincherlow-Martin, Calhoun Community College, member-at-large. ACSPRA strives to enhance the image and promote awareness and public perception of the Alabama College System. For information on how to become a part of ACSPRA, contact Herb Jordan at 334/690-6454.

## Drake receives ASE master certification

J.F. Drake State Technical College's Automotive Technology department was recently approved by the National Institute for Automotive Service Excellence (ASE) as an ASE Master Certified Training Program.

The certification is sponsored through the National Automotive Technicians Education Foundation (NATEF), founded in 1983, which evaluates technician training programs against standards developed by the automotive industry and recommended qualifying programs for accreditation by

ASE. The NATEF process has resulted in certified automotive training programs nationwide.

This certification proves the college's automotive program has achieved the highest industry standards in eight areas of automotive educational programs, including automatic transmission and transaxle, brakes, electrical/electronic systems, engine performance, engine repair, heating and air conditioning, manual drive train and axles and suspension and steering.



## Shelton State honors local community leaders

Shelton State Community College continues to recognize community leadership through the naming of areas and rooms on the college's new campus. The atrium located in the center of the new facility will be named the Tanner and Guin L.L.C. Atrium in recognition of the Tuscaloosa firm's community service and support of education. Tanner and Guin, a 13-attorney law firm, specializes in business and commercial law. The company and its employees were honored by a reception at the college.

Earlier in the fall the college's new technical division was named in honor of Roland Pugh, an outstanding alumnus of the college and local business leader. Named the Roland Pugh Technologies Division, this 260,000 square-foot area houses the college's 20 technical programs, including the welding program that Pugh completed in 1964. Pugh is the owner of Roland Pugh Construction Company, is a member of the Alabama Commission on Education and was recently appointed to the Federal Reserve Board.

Shelton's state-of-the-art theatre moves toward completion this spring, thanks in part to the many donations of individuals, companies, and foundations. Last November local philanthropist Asa "Howard" Bean announced a \$1.15 million gift to the college to establish the A.H. Bean Endowed Scholarship Fund. A part of the money will also be used to help complete the theatre complex currently under construction. Bean's gift is the largest single donation ever made to the college. The new theatre will be named the Bean-Brown Theatre in honor of Mr. Bean's late wife and daughter. The 450-seat theatre will be the centerpiece of the Tuscaloosa Fine Arts Center and will house a recital hall, galleries, art, dance and music studios, and full theatrical facilities.

Attorney Ryan deGraffenried, Rick Harbin, Sandra and Martin Ray and Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Carr have all made individual "Leadership Gifts." Three area foundations, the Hill Crest Foundation, BellSouth Foundation and the Alabama Power Foundation have contributed substantial gifts to the theatre project. The area's banking industry continues to support the development of the arts with gifts from the National Bank of Commerce, the Bank of Moundville and the Bank of Tuscaloosa.

The BellSouth Foundation Gallery leading to the theatre will serve as a showcase for area artists. The Alabama Power Foundation Recital Hall serves as the central box office and lobby area and was designed for musical projections.



Collins, left, meets with JSCC President Judy Merritt to discuss renovations

## Funds secured for renovations

Jefferson County Commissioner Bettye Fine Collins recently secured \$21,000 for renovations to the Community College Park at Jefferson State. The money will go toward new playground equipment in both the "Tot Lot" and the older children's playground.

For the safety of the children, Jefferson State recently closed both play areas. Many years of heavy use, wood rot and decay at the base of the weight-bearing posts weakened the play structures and made the equipment unsafe for play.

The Community Park is highly utilized by kindergartens, elementary schools, church children's groups and day cares from the city, county and surrounding areas. The park is used for outings, picnics, reunions, weddings and more.

## CVCC phon-a-thon exceeds goal

Chattahoochee Valley Community College staff, faculty and alumni volunteers came together for an evening to contact friends, family and community members to support the CVCC Foundation efforts. Throughout the evening, good-natured competition between teams helped raise \$7,000. The goal of \$3,000 was easily met and surpassed.





Debra Clark

## Clark selected as test writer

The National Council of State Boards of Nursing Inc. in Chicago recently selected Debra Clark, practical nursing instructor at MacArthur State Technical College, to participate as an item writer in an National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX) item development panel session held Feb. 18-22 in Tucker, Ga.

Clark, who was selected by the Alabama State Board of Nursing based on her experience and nursing expertise, was one of only 12 nurses from across the nation selected. As an item writer, she developed test questions, or items, that will be used as part of the NCLEX, a required test for attaining a nursing license.

The National Council is responsible for developing and administering the NCLEX for all nurses in the U.S. and five U.S. territories. The examination identifies those candidates who demonstrate minimal competence to practice nursing at the entry level.

## Ayers provides training for local industry

Ayers State Technical College in Anniston offers frontline leadership to provide managers with the special skills necessary to handle today's workplace problems. Students use hands-on participation by applying proven Times-Mirror Zenger-Miller Training Group principles to their specific job situation. Training provides skills and awareness to change employee behavior and pave the way for organizational change and improvement.

Ayers began offering Zenger-Miller training for local industries in February. Seventeen class sessions with between 12 and 20 students were offered in February and March. Two Zenger-Miller classes have also been scheduled for Ayers State Employees.

Ayers State's TBI program not only provides training for local industry but also works to provide courses of interest to individuals in the community. In January, Ayers formed a partnership with Quintard Mall in Oxford to offer an introductory computer class and CPR. Computer students were supplied with laptop computers during class time to receive practical, hands-on training.

## Grant allows for safety, health training

Bishop State Community College's Institute for Safety and Health Training has received a \$100,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration to provide a free training program on safety and health for small businesses.

Housed within the college's Division of Continuing Education and Economic Development, the program covers the Mobile area and portions of the Mississippi and Florida Gulf Coasts and will serve at least 40 small businesses and at least 420 employers and employees. Company owners/managers, safety training coordi-

nators and others are already now benefiting from the training.

The project is unique in that the institute's safety training specialist and accompanying consultant training team conduct an initial visit to the business to perform a site-specific assessment and determine the degree of commitment at the business to the Institute's program. Then they train company representatives, followed by the Institute consultant team's review of each business safety and health training program. A final inspection occurs to ensure proper follow-through of the program.

## Employees volunteer with Junior Achievement

Lawson State employees Tracy Cunningham, related subjects instructor, Carl Davis, counselor/job placement coordinator, Miranda Watkins, retention counselor, and Walter Williams, Lawson State chief of police, recently volunteered their time and energies to work with Junior Achievement of Greater Birmingham, Inc.

The Lawson employees served as volunteer consultants and mentors to students in the Middle School program. They also worked cooperatively with the classroom teacher.

Junior Achievement educates and inspires young people to value free enterprise, business and economics in order to improve the quality of their lives.